

8. (Previously Presented) A method of preparing cytology slides, the method comprising:

providing a slide preparation device comprising a first cover having an inside surface, a second cover having an inside surface, said first and second covers hingedly secured to each other so as to be foldable into a book form, an absorbent material mounted to the inside surface of the first cover, a filter overlaying the absorbent material and a plurality of slides attached to the inside surface of the second cover;

applying an aliquot of cytology sample to the filter; and

closing the book form so that the filter containing the aliquot contacts the slides.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the aliquot comprises a cellular sample in a liquid-based medium.

10. (Previously Presented) A device for facilitating the preparation of a plurality of cytology slides, the device comprising:

a cover having an inside surface;

a base having an inside surface;

an interposed hinge, said cover and base hingeably secured by the hinge so as to be foldable into a book form capable of an open and closed position;

a plurality of absorbent material mounted on the inside surface of the cover;

a filter, the filter overlaying the absorbent material; and

a plurality of cytology slides, each cytology slide corresponding to one of the absorbent material mounted on the cover, wherein the cytology slides are mounted to the inside surface of the base, each slide being positioned on the inside surface of the base to contact the corresponding absorbent material and the filter when the book form is in the closed position.

11. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 10, wherein the slides are removeably mounted on the inside surface of the base.

12. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, wherein the slides are removeably mounted to a slide carrier, the slide carrier is removeably mounted to the inside surface of the base.

13. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, wherein the slides are removeably mounted to a slide carrier, the slide carrier is hingeably mounted to the inside surface of the base.

14. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 10, wherein the absorbent material is mounted to a strip, the strip is removeably mounted to the inside surface of the cover.

15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 10, wherein the filter includes a plurality of individual filters, each filter corresponding to one of the absorbent materials.

16. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 10, wherein the cover is weighted to effectively transfer a sample applied to the absorbent material and filter to the slide when the book form is in the closed position.

17. (Previously Presented) A slide carrier suitable for use with the device of claim 10, said slide carrier including a plurality of slots for holding a plurality of cytology slides, wherein the slide carrier is removeably mounted to the base of the device.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 10 wherein the interposed hinge is formed by a spine interposed between the cover and base.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 further comprising applying pressure to the first and second covers in the closed position.